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COUNTRY East Germany REPORT

TOPIC Military Activity in the Koenigsbrueck and Zeithain Areas 25X1

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PAGES 4 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS 25X1

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This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. During the night of 25 September 1954, approximately 40 to 50 T-34 and 10 JS tanks left the Nachrichten Schule (1521) in Koenigsbrueck. The unit returned during the night on 29 September. only small exercises were held in the vicinity of Koenigsbrueck between 25 and 29 September. Between 1 and 9 October, up to 5 T-34 tanks repeatedly left the installation for driving practice either in the Au or at the training grounds. 25X1
2. Beginning on 25 September, troops moved, mostly at night, from Neues Lager (1523) and the summer camps along the Koenigsbrueck-Schwepnitz road to assembly areas in the Lausnitz Heath where tanks and guns were dug in. No movements were observed on 29 September. Other exercises were reportedly held in the Kamenz area between 29 September and 6 October. Troops participating in these exercises advanced to Kamenz via Schwepnitz and Strassgraebchen. On 7 and 8 October, heavy noise of combat including reports of artillery pieces and infantry weapons was heard from north of Neues Lager at the Koenigsbrueck training grounds on 7 and 8 October. 25X1
3. On 25 and 26 September, approximately 10 troop trains, each carrying 25 to 30 tanks, were loaded at the Koenigsbrueck-Ost railroad station. The trains allegedly left toward the Lausnitz Heath. Between 27 September and 3 October, the following shipments left toward Dresden from Koenigsbrueck-Ost and Koenigsbrueck: 6 shipments with guns of 120 to 150 mm, prime movers and trucks; and 1 shipment with approximately 25 boxcars carrying personnel who wore red-bordered black epaulets. 25X1
4. Prior to 29 September, major exercises were held in the Riesa-Koenigsbrueck area. Between 1030 and 1400 on 29 September, large truck columns without weapons passed through Riesa and proceeded eastward. The trucks were occupied by soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and carrying full field pack. At 0500 on 27 September, large-scale maneuvers started in the Koenigsbrueck-Badeberg area. 25X1

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5. In the morning of 6 October, 5 JS-2 tanks [redacted] and 12 trucks towing 76-mm AT guns passed through Weixdorf. The column came from the direction of Koenigsbrueck and proceeded toward Dresden. On the same day, numerous motor vehicles including trucks [redacted] proceeded in the same direction:

6. At 1430 on 27 September, the following vehicles came from the direction of Dresden and entered the Nachrichten Schule: 27 trucks towing 2 field kitchens [redacted]

[redacted] and 4 trucks towing 4 x 37-mm AA guns [redacted] and armored personnel carriers [redacted]. On 28 September, armored personnel carriers [redacted] and numerous trucks with furniture [redacted] went in the opposite direction.

7. The following observations were made at the railroad stations mentioned:

At 1100 on 26 September, 7 SU-100 guns, T-34 tanks [redacted] and trucks [redacted] were entrained at Koenigsbrueck-Ost.

At noon on 28 September, T-34 tanks [redacted] were entrained at Koenigsbrueck-West.

At 0715 on 14 October, armored personnel carriers [redacted] were presumably detrained at Koenigsbrueck-Ost.

8. The following observations were made in the Koenigsbrueck area:
1 October. At 1200, approximately 55 trucks, 5 armored personnel carriers [redacted] and 9 x 85-mm AT guns were entrained at Koenigsbrueck-Ost.

At 2000, more than 40 trucks, armored personnel carrier [redacted] 9 x 85-mm AT guns and 2 field kitchens were loaded onto a second train there. [redacted]

10 October. At 1600, a column of 22 trucks towing 9 x 85-mm AT guns [redacted]

[redacted] was seen en route toward Neues Lager.

11 October. At 0800, 10 T-34/85 tanks [redacted] were entrained at Koenigsbrueck-Ost.

13 October. At 1800, a train with approximately 30 trucks and 1 armored personnel carrier was seen at the Koenigsbrueck-West railroad station.

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14 October. Movements from Neues Lager toward Koenigsbrueck included approximately 15 trucks towing several 85-mm AT guns [redacted] at 0630, 10 tank trucks and armored personnel carrier [redacted] at 0730, and 6 trucks towing 120-mm mortars, armored personnel carriers [redacted] towing 4 x 57-mm AT guns and 16 armored personnel carriers [redacted] at 1700.

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19 October. At 0400, several troop trains were assembled at the Schwepnitz railroad station and were loaded with at least 50 track-laying vehicles including JS-1 tank [redacted] 10 armored personnel carriers, trucks and field kitchens.

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9. At 0700 on 10 October, armored personnel carriers [redacted] towing 85-mm AT guns, left Riesa toward Grossenhain. At about 1600, they were followed by armored personnel carriers [redacted]. At noon on 11 October, armored personnel carriers [redacted] left Riesa toward the Zeithain training grounds. 3

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1. Comment. The movement probably also involved elements of the U/i Arty Brig of the First Gds Mech Army which transferred to Altengrabow for firing practices.

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2. Comment. The motor vehicles belong to MVD units in Dresden, predominantly to units from the Bucher Kaserne (1313)

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3. Comment. Units of the First Gds Mech Army conducted fall exercises in the Zeithain-Koenigsbrueck area between about 23 September and 14 October. [redacted]

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[redacted] According to this and previous reports, the following units may have participated during the periods indicated:

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About 22 to 27 September. Tank units crossed the Elbe River toward east in the Muehlberg section in the Zeithain area and were subsequently entrained for posts of the 11th Gds Tank Div at the Wuelknitz and Roederau railroad stations.

About 25 to 29 September. For information on movements in the Koenigsbrueck area, see paragraphs 1 and 2 [redacted] This may have been an exercise of elements of the 8th Gds Mech Div or an exercise in which the division participated. Compare with information on the departure toward the east of elements from Grimma on 23 September [redacted] The tank regiment of the 11th Gds Tank Div which, according to paragraph 1 of the present report, left the Nachrichten Schule on 26 September, may have also participated, possibly as enemy group.

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About 29 September to 7 October. For information on movements in the Kamenz-Koenigsbrueck area, see paragraph 2. On about 8 October, elements of the 8th Gds Mech Div returned to Grimma, possibly from exercises.

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About 13 and 14 October. Units of the 8th Gds Mech Div returned by rail to Grimma and Leipzig-Schoenau from the Koenigsbrueck area and passed through Meissen, on about 14/16 October.

There is reason to believe that the 9th Tank Div participated in the exercises in the Zeithain area from about 22 to 27 September.

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